

SOME ATTRACTIONS AT THE BIRMINGHAM THEATRES DURING THE WEEK

At the Jefferson

Wednesday Night—John Drew in "The Will" and "The Tyranny of Tears."
Thursday Night—Lecture by Dr. Henry M. Edmonds, pastor of the South Highlands Presbyterian church on "A Cattle-Boat Trip to Europe."
Saturday, Matinee and Night—Neil O'Brien's Minstrels.

At the Lyric

All Week—Keith's vaudeville.

At the Bijou

All Week—"Merely Mary Ann."

At the Orpheum

All Week—Vaudeville.

JOHN DREW TO BE SEEN IN DOUBLE BILL

Great Actor and Capable Company Booked for Performance at Jefferson Wednesday Night

Next Wednesday night has been chosen for John Drew's return to this city at the Jefferson theatre in two plays, one by J. M. Barrie and the other by Haddon Chambers. The Barrie play is called "The Will," and is in three scenes. It gives Mr. Drew the chance to play the part of a man of 45 and 65. Preceding "The Will," Mr. Drew will appear in Haddon Chambers' famous comedy, "The Tyranny of Tears."

Two of England's most famous playwrights have provided John Drew with his present vehicle, in which he returns to this city for his annual engagement. It is a foregone conclusion that this double bill, in which Mr. Drew will be seen here, will prove one of the most novel and interesting stage offerings of the season.

The record of James M. Barrie is too well known to most people interested in dramatic literature to require any words of praise worthy comment. Barrie's "Peter Pan," "What Every Woman Knows," "Quality Street" and "The Little Minister" have brought delight to English-speaking playgoers on both sides of the Atlantic and Barrie's name has become a household word in all English and American homes.

Haddon Chambers, the author of "The Tyranny of Tears," attained his first popularity in this country at a comparatively early age through the success of his two plays, "Captain Swift" and "The Idler." He has since done much good work besides, which has brought him his reputation.

Perhaps not the least fortunate thing that can happen to a young author or dramatist nowadays is that his lot may be cast, when he is at the age susceptible to new impressions, either in the British colonies, where the progress of civilization may be studied in its development, or in a country where the civilization is very different from his own. Perhaps Bret Harte or Mark Twain owed some measure of their success to the fact that circumstances brought them into contact with material so new to literary treatment as life in the California gold fields of '49 or along the Mississippi at about the same period.

In the same way Rudyard Kipling owed to India his first inspiration

as a successful writer of short stories. Haddon Chambers was born in Australia, where he lived in the "bush" until his early manhood. In "The Tyranny of Tears," Mr. Chambers has shown far greater proof of his intuitive insight for writing plays than in any of his previous works. In dialogue, construction and power of character drawing, all of which are the essentials in the making of a good playwright, Mr. Chambers has few equals today among English dramatists. "The Tyranny of Tears" will, in the opinion of many prominent critics, hold its own as one of the classics of the modern stage. Seat sale Monday.

LYRIC'S BIGGEST ACT YET THIS WEEK

Harry Tighe and Collegians in Big Musical Comedy—Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Castle Before Camera

The Lyric has this week as the headliner the greatest and largest act that has yet appeared at the new house. Harry Tighe and his colleagues, 10 people, will present a melange of comedy and music, with a little plot that relates to a stolen automobile, all under the name of "Taking Things Easy." Mr. Tighe is known far and wide as one of the cleverest comedians and entertainers on the vaudeville stage, and also on account of the excellence of the original songs sung, and the costuming and staging. Mr. Tighe was a famous Yale man and a graduate of Old Eli.

The act is a brilliant vaudeville feature and a headline act on any bill. It is the most important booking to date of the Lyric theatre. A special feature of the bill will be Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Castle, society's greatest dancers of the new steps, in motion pictures. They appear in all their latest and newest steps, including "half and half," "the Argentine Tango," "the maxie" and the new "innovation waltz," which Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish pronounced as being the latest, cleanest and best of all the parlor dances. The devotees of the tango will have an opportunity of seeing the steps at their source of origin, danced by the most famous of all dancers. Each step can be plainly seen. Mr. and Mrs. Castle are reputed to make nearly \$50,000 a month dancing on the stage, at private parties, teaching lessons and at their cafe.

Many patrons of vaudeville remember the Hassmans, father and son, who were the sensation at the Majestic several years ago. Their work is remarkable and absolutely different from any other done by hand balancers and equilibristae.

Carlie Moore, who wrote "Stop Thief," contributed "Disillusioned," in which Herbert and Claribel Farjeon will appear at the Lyric this week. The act is a comedy satire dealing with the adventures of one Patrice, stage-struck spouse of one Pallard, a master baker.

The speed with which they execute their feats of dexterity and skill have caused Lynch and Zeller to be called the "bang, bang" boys, "clubmaniacs" and they will be first on the bill this week.

Elida Morris, the singing comedienne, will furnish an appealing number in which her cleverness, vivacity and manner have much to do with the success of her songs, which are her own, and rendered exclusively by her. She is



Top, Left—Emma Bunting in "Merely Mary Ann," at the Bijou. Top, Right—John Drew at the Jefferson. Bottom—Kitamura Japs, Japanese acrobats, at the Orpheum

also a graceful dancer, which enhances her singing. Nevins and Erwood, a man and woman offering a novelty in black face comedy, singing and dancing, will be the sixth act on the bill, and the seventh will be announced later.

EMMA BUNTING IN "MERELY MARY ANN"

She Will Present Zangwill's Famous Play—Has an Excellent Part for Her

For the second week of Little Emma Bunting's stay at the Bijou theatre she will be seen in the title role of Israel Zangwill's "Merely Mary Ann." It is almost needless to say that the part is one of the best that Miss Bunting plays, for it has strength and character, as well as the quality of part in which she appears to best advantage.

In the part of "Mary Ann," Miss Bunting scored her greatest successes in the past while in stock in Atlanta, Memphis and New Orleans, and the newspapers of those cities were unanimous in declaring that it was her best work. She appears first as the maid of all work in a second-class lodging house in lower London, and afterwards she becomes a woman of society, perfect in her manners, splendid in her poise and serene in the consciousness that she is of a high birth. The transition from one character to another is accomplished with much comedy and many clever scenes on the part of Miss Bunting. In the latter part of the play she has the opportunity to wear one of the new gowns which she has just brought from New York.

"Mary Ann" meets and falls in love at the lodging house with Lancelot, the son of a baronet, but a runaway from his home and fortune in order that he may write an opera. When she inherits her fortune she offers it to him that he may pursue his music in comfort, but her generosity arouses his manhood, and he leaves to make his own way, which he does. In the meantime Mary Ann quickly acquires the ways of the rich and the life of the station in which she is thrown through acquiring her money.

In later years Lancelot and Mary Ann are thrown together through their common friends, and he finds that the heart of the "Marian" of society is truly that of "Merely Mary Ann."

A stock production, equally as good as that of last week, will be shown on Monday night, and the company will be perfect in their parts. It is a striking feature of Miss Bunting and her company that the Monday night performance is always as smooth and finished as that of the last of the week, and for that reason many of her admirers would as soon attend a first night performance.

TEN JAPS IN GREAT ACT AT ORPHEUM

Said to Be One of the Finest Acrobatic Features Now in Vaudeville

What is said to be unquestionably the greatest troupe of Japanese acrobats in the world, the Kitamura Japs, are the headliners at the Orpheum theatre this week and the act is not only the largest, but is the most expensive that has ever played there. There are 10 Japs in the act, and they present a series of feats that are said to be remarkable.

Among them are four of the Japs who do some unusual juggling of barrels on their feet, crossing and crisscrossing the barrels in the air. One of the members of the team is the world's champion umbrella juggler and manipulator, and it is stated that feats

never before accomplished on any stage will be shown. In addition to that there are scores of lesser features to the act, tumbling, balancing, hand-to-hand work and mat work. The act carries what is said to be the most magnificently embroidered drop curtain in the world. It is all hand embroidered in solid gold and gorgeously colored threads, and represents an investment of more than \$4000. The curtain is about 40 feet square and shows a scene in Japan.

The costuming of the act is brilliant and beautiful, and said to be a feature. The clever umbrella juggler in the Kitamura act is a brother of the two boys who work in the act that was at the Lyric last week. After playing at the Orpheum the act will return to New York or Chicago and join one of the great circuits.

Boyle and DeBecker, protean artists, are said to offer a very clever, original and amusing act. Their changes from character to character and costume to costume are said to be swift and entertaining.

Maxwell Holden injects considerable comedy into his shadowgraph act, and it is stated that he offers it on a scale more elaborate and complete than usual and very entertaining. Spero and Lovins in a singing, comedy and dancing specialty will be another of the offerings of the week and Billy Dynes, a tramp comedian with new comedy and songs, will complete the bill.

Neil O'Brien, who brings his new minstrel organization to the Jefferson theatre Saturday next, matinee and night, as one enthusiastic critic puts it, "has certainly ascended the ebony throne of minstrelsy and sways the sceptre over the world of black-face fun." Not for many years has any minstrel organization been assembled with such a competent array of fun-makers, vocalists and dancers as compose this company, which is again under the management of Oscar F. Hodge.

Wide interest attaches to the coming of Ota Skinner in "Kismet" to the Jefferson theatre soon. Owing to the length of the performance the curtain will rise promptly at 8 o'clock at the night per-



ELIDA MORRIS Singing and dancing comedienne at the Lyric

formances and at 2 o'clock at the matinee. The performance runs a trifle more than three hours and during that time almost every variety of theatrical entertainment is provided. Besides the splendid dramatic work of Mr. Skinner and his chief associates, there is vocal and instrumental music, dancing and even juggling. There are nine changes of scene during the performance, but these changes are made so dexterously that there are no waits of more than five minutes during the entire evening.

What is said to be one of the prettiest

"TIZ" FOR ACHING, SORE, TIRED FEET

"TIZ" for tender, puffed-up, sweaty, calloused feet and corns



Notes of the Theatres

Announcement is made that Ruth St. Denis, presenting her original Hindoo and Japanese plays, will be at the Jefferson theatre next month.

Dr. Henry M. Edmonds, pastor of the South Highlands Presbyterian church, will deliver his famous lecture, "A Cattle Boat Trip to Europe," at the Jefferson theatre next Thursday night under the auspices of the Pastor's Aid society. A large audience is expected for the lecture, the speaker and subject being most attractive.

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and most delightful productions of this season is the new operetta "Adele," which comes to this city next month for three performances, under the direction of the New Era Producing company. When it was seen in New York the first time, it scored an instantaneous success. The cast consists of none but well known artists, including as it does Carolyn Thomson, Annette Flack, John Park, Alfred Kappeler, George O'Donnell, Jules Esplan, Ralph Nairn and a score of others, to perform as well as to sing. Individually the best singing organization that has toured this country since the days of the famous "Bostonians."

"Damaged Goods" is to make a visit to Birmingham to the Jefferson theatre in the near future.

India's Barber Shops

There are probably not more than 30 barber shops in India of sufficiently high class to make use of imported barber supplies, a consul writes in the Daily Consular Reports. Such shops have practically only the European element to cater to, and many of the Europeans employ native barbers who have no shops, but come to their private residences with razors, scissors, etc., to perform any services required.

The best equipped barber shops are in Calcutta, where there is the largest European population; a few other cities, such as Bombay, Lucknow, Lahore and important hill stations, such as Simla (the summer capital of India), Darjeeling and Mussoorie, also have them in less number. At the hill stations the European population, including civil and military officials and transient tourists, is, in the summer time, relatively larger than in other towns of India.

The proprietor of a leading barber shop in Simla, who also has a shop at Lucknow, tells me that catering to masculine customers is really the smallest and least profitable part of his business, as well as well to Europeans shave themselves, chiefly with American safety razors, and go to barber shops only to have their hair cut. The best business is ladies' hairdressing.

ing, it being the practice in India for barber shops, or hairdressing shops, as they are known here, to cater to both men and women, separate rooms being reserved for each class of customers. The prices charged ladies for hairdressing are about 65 cents for ordinary morning toilet, \$1 for evening toilet and \$1.50 for balls and other specially brilliant functions. In case of any unusually important social evening affair, such as a government house ball, ladies often book time a week ahead for their special hairdressing and those who do not book sufficiently long in advance may have to come as early as 3 o'clock in the morning to have the desired service rendered.

The most prominent barber shops in the making up of wigs, switches, etc., the hair for which is usually purchased in England, France or Germany. At one such shop in Simla I was told that probably 70 per cent of the European women in India make use, in some form or other, of artificial additions to their natural hair. Many of the "purdah" or high class native women are also said to be large purchasers of wigs, switches, etc., although they do not themselves go into the barber shops, but procure their requirements through their husbands or female attendants. Falling hair and baldness are very common among both sexes in India, due, probably to unfavorable climatic conditions and the wearing of heavy sun hats which exclude the air.

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Rim—"What is your son doing these days?"
Raff—"Me."

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"THE WILL"

(By J. M. BARRIE, Author of "Peter Pan," "The Little Minister" and

"The Tyranny of Tears"

(By C. Haddon Chambers, Author of "Fanny" Mr. Drew in Both Plays

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